Mary Scalco, Drycleaning & Laundry Institute

DRYCLEANING:
PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

#### PRINCIPAL OF DRYCLEANING

"Dry"cleaning is not a dry process.

Utilizes solvent liquids that are circulated through the clothes to dissolve and lift dirt, grease and oils.

Mixture of dirt and solvent is removed, distilled and filtered so solvent can be reused

### **INDUSTRY STATISTICS\***

- × 38,755 establishments
- Employs ~ 164,500 individuals
- × \$9.0 Billion
- Comprised of mom & pop establishments, few national chains
- Industry was shrinking, revenue declined 2.6% annually 2008-2013
- × 80% revenue is from individual households

<sup>\*</sup> IBIS World Industry Report, November 2013

### HISTORY DRYCLEANING SOLVENTS

- Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century—Turpentine spirits, benzene, naptha, kerosene, white gasoline.
- × 1924-1928—Stoddard introduced
- \* 1934—Introduction of perc, carbon tet, trichloroethylene
- × 1948—Perc is primary chlorinated solvent
- × 1950—140 F hydrocarbon solvent developed
- × 1962—Perc primary drycleaning solvent
- x 1964—Fluorinated-chlorinated solvent (Valclene) introduced
- × 1980—111 Trichloroethane makes brief appearance

### HIGH FLASHPOINT HYDROCARBONS

- Mid-1990's—First high flashpoint hydrocarbon solvent, DF 2000, introduced
- Isoparaffinic hydrocarbons
  - + Mixtures of C8 to C12napthenic, aromatic & paraffinic compounds
  - + 2% Aromatic
- High flashpoint solvents in addition to DF 2000
  - + Eco Solv
  - + Shell Sol D-60
  - + Drylene 800
  - + Ensolv

## **ENHANCED HYDROCARBONS**

- Raise the flashpoint
- Boost cleaning capabilities
- Options
  - + Pure Dry—hydrofluoroether (HFE), perflourocarbon (PFC)
  - + Impress & Gen-X—aliphatic glycol ethers

# ADD' L SOLVENT OPTIONS

- GreenEarth—silicone based, D-5
- Solvon K-4—Dibutoxymethane/Butylal
- Liquid CO2 & later Solvair (glycol butyl ether & CO2)—machines no longer available
- DrySolv (npB)—limited use
- × Rynex (glycol ether)—limited use, 3rd rendition

# TODAY'S SOLVENT USE

* Perc	50-60%
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* High Fla	sh Hydrocarbon	40-50%
	- J	

- GreenEarth 5-10%
- **×** Solvon K4 5-10%
- × Others < 5%

# WETCLEANING

- Not a viable 100% replacement to solvent processing
  - + Production costs
  - + Processing time
- Adjunct to solvent processing a necessity

#### EARLY DRYCLEANING MACHINE TECHNOLOGY



Transfer Machines
Separate washer and dryer

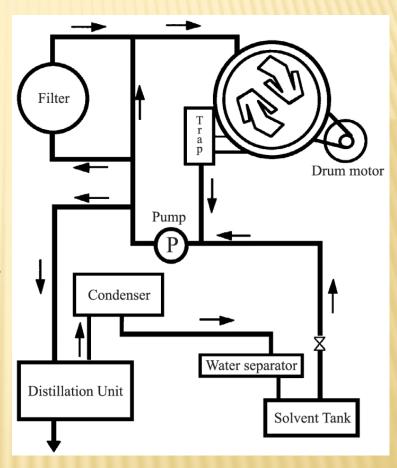
#### TODAY'S DRYCLEANING MACHINE TECHNOLOGY



Dry to Dry non-vented

- Tank holds the solvent
- Pump draws solvent into perforated stainless steel cylinder
- Solvent circulated through the cylinder
- Solvent goes through button trap to tank
- After washing solvent is drained & clothes spun
- After drying the solvent is distilled and returned to the tank

New machines are completely enclosed



#### DIAGRAM OF MODERN DRYCLEANING PROCESS

# REGULATORY CONCERNS FOR PERC ALTERNATIVES

- \* All combustible to some degree
- Most VOC's
- Most have no known health concerns
- Some have environmental concerns
- None have hazardous waste issues—although industry recommends treat waste as hazardous
- None have discharge concerns—although industry recommends limiting discharge

# CLEANING PERFORMANCE FOR PERC ALTERNATIVES

- None perform as well as perc in terms of cleaning capability
- All provide adequate cleaning capability especially when combined with adequate detergents
- Some provide processing capabilities for additional types of garments—fragile, dye sensitive, "fancy"

# PRODUCTION COMPARISON FOR PERC ALTERNATIVES

- All require extended processing time as compared to perc
- Spotting, finishing, assembly labor is only minimally increased, if at all
- Utility consumption is comparable

	GreenEarth GreenEarth Cleaning	Hydrocarbon R.R Street & Co.	SolvonK4 Kreussier	Perc Dow	Rynex Adco	GenX Caled
Cycle Length (Minutes)	60	2 Bath - 55-65 1 Bath - 50-60	2 Bath - 70 min 1 Bath - 62 min	45	74	55-60
Wash Time (Minutes)	17	18-20	7- 10	15-20	7.5	4-8
Drying Time (Minutes)	35	28	48 w/cool down	30-35	60	25-30
Is a Specific Machine Required?	Class IIIA	Class IIIA	Class IIIA vacuum still	Class IV	K Series Class IIIA	Class IIIA
Fees/Licenses	\$2,500 - Annual	No	No	No	No	No
Proprietary products Required?	Many approved products available. Top Brands	No	Yes. Kreussier Products	No	Booster Sizing	No
Average Cost Per Gallon	\$21-\$24	\$13.95	\$30.70	\$25	\$36	\$29.41
Average Solvent Mileage (Pounds cleaned per Gallon)	1,500	1,500 to 1,800 Standard Class IIIA 4,000 K Series Class IIIA	4,300 minimum of .5% weight of load	730 to 1,000	3,000+	800 to 1,100
Recommended Waste Disposal*	Licensed waste hauler	Appropriate waste hauler	Licensed waste hauler	Licensed waste hauler	Regular waste hauler	Non- hazardous municipal waste
Number of Machines in U.S.	More than 900 U.S. 1,700 global	10,000+ U.S.	200 U.S. 450 global	36,000 U.S.	10 U.S. 13 global	800 U.S. 1,000 global
Any Major Issues?	None	None	None	Proper handling and disposal; Restrictions on location; Special reporting & Permitting	Residual solvent signature after drying	None
Rumors or Misconceptions	Does not clean     Banned in Canada	1. Does not clean	Odor of the solvent will be a problem	Banned     Unavailable     Stabilizer     disappears     when distilled	None	1.Doesn't need detergent
Top 3 Benefits	Favorable Regulatory Profile      Garment Manufacturers' Recommendations      Landlord Specified Locations	Cost effective     Virtually odorless     Ease of transition & ongoing operations	1. Exceptional Cleaning Performance 2. Unmatched solvent mileage 3. Environmental & occupational safety for the clients, staff, landlords & drycleaners	1.Safety 2.Proven performance 3.Economical	Better soil removal     Less reruns     Great solvent mileage	1. Better performance for oil & water stain removal 2. Cheaper Spotting labor & chemical cost 3. Faster cleaning with no harsh smell



# **Questions & Answers**

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